

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claim Amendments

The Applicant has amended claims 1 and 19. Support for the amendments is found on page 10 lines 12-15. Applicant respectfully submits no new matter has been added. Accordingly, claims 1-17 and 19-20 are pending in the application. Favorable reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Examiner Objections – Drawings

The Drawings were objected to because in Figures 1 and 2, need appropriate legends. Proposed corrections to the drawings are shown on the enclosed sheets. The Examiner's approval of the drawing change is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

Claims 1-17, 19 and 20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Ejzak (20030027569 A1), (hereinafter Ejzak). The Applicant has amended claims 1 and 19 to better define the intended scope of the claimed invention. The Examiner's consideration of the amended claims is respectfully requested.

The Applicant's invention claims a method and node in a communications network that can accommodate the tasks of the node as part of both a layered architectural environment (e.g., MSC-Server) and a non-layered environment (e.g., MSC/VLR). An operation mode is determined for processing a communication service request according to the incoming request. The operation mode for the network node is determined according to the protocol of the incoming request (page 10, lines 12-15) as claimed in amended independent claims 1 and 19). For example if a BSS Application Part (BSSAP) is used, the MSC/VLR mode is selected. If Radio Access Network Application Part (RANAP) is used the MSC-Server mode is used.

The Ejzak reference does not disclose the limitation of determining an operation mode according to the protocol of the incoming request. The Applicant respectfully

requests the withdrawal of the rejection of amended claims 1 and 19 and the respective depending claims.

Prior Art Not Relied Upon

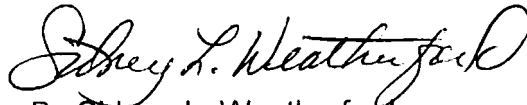
In paragraph 5 on page 11 of the Office Action, the Examiner stated that the prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to the Applicant's disclosure.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks, the Applicant believes all of the claims currently pending in the Application to be in a condition for allowance. The Applicant, therefore, respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw all rejections and issue a Notice of Allowance for all pending claims.

The Applicant requests a telephonic interview if the Examiner has any questions or requires any additional information that would further or expedite the prosecution of the Application.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sidney L. Weatherford", written in a cursive style.

By Sidney L. Weatherford
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